

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 498**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Hayashi**

February 24, 2009

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An act relating to housing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 498, as introduced, Hayashi. Affordable housing: veterans.

Existing law establishes the Multifamily Housing Program under the administration of the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide a standardized set of program rules and features applicable to all housing types based on the department's California Housing Rehabilitation Program. Existing law authorizes a sponsor, as defined, of a supportive housing development funded by the Multifamily Housing Program, to restrict occupancy of a project to persons with veteran status under specified circumstances.

This bill would make several legislative findings and declarations relating to veteran renter households. The bill would also express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to affordable housing for veteran renter households.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Veterans returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan
- 4 could increase demand for affordable rental housing.

1 (b) Because rental assistance is not an entitlement, not all  
2 veterans who are eligible receive assistance.

3 (c) In 2005, an estimated 2.3 million veteran renter households  
4 had low incomes. Further, an estimated 1.3 million, or about 56  
5 percent of these low-income veteran households, have housing  
6 affordability problems where rental costs exceed 30 percent of  
7 household income.

8 (d) California has significantly more low-income veteran renter  
9 households than any other state, more than 236,000, or about 10  
10 percent of all such households nationwide.

11 (e) More than one-third of low-income veteran renter households  
12 include a veteran who is elderly or has a disability.

13 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation  
14 relating to affordable housing for veteran renter households.